

New Work by Roy Medvedev Reported in Soviet

**Historian's Analysis Termed
Critical of the Secret Police**

By HEDRICK SMITH

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Aug. 18—Roy A. Medvedev, the iconoclast historian whose unauthorized history of the Stalinist era won critical acclaim in the West, has reportedly finished a new book on contemporary Soviet society that deals with recent political trends inside the Soviet Communist party as well as the dissident movement.

Sources among Soviet dissidents report that the book, which criticizes the secret police and curbs on intellectual freedom, is circulating here in samizdat, or typescript form.

According to some reports the new book, titled "Democracy and Socialism," has already reached the West.

Mr. Medvedev, a 47-year-old historian who went into hiding last fall after a secret police raid on his apartment, has reportedly returned to Moscow this summer. So far no action has been taken against him for publication of his history of the Stalinist purges, "Let History Judge."

Friends say that he has unsuccessfully sought to regain the post he resigned last fall at the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences shortly before his Stalinist history was published in the West. It has not been published here, though it was submitted years ago to Communist party leaders.

It is not known whether Mr. Medvedev has tried to submit his new work to Soviet publishers. But given his unorthodox views, though he is a dedicated Marxist, Soviet publication would seem unlikely.

Mr. Medvedev and his twin



Roy Medvedev

brother, Zhores, a biologist, gained international prominence in 1970 when Zhores was put into a mental hospital on what they felt were political grounds. Roy rallied other Soviet intellectuals to protest and gain Zhores's freedom, and the two brothers collaborated on an expose of the incident, titled "A Question of Madness."

Mr. Medvedev's new work appears to be the first attempt at an extended treatment of current Soviet politics by a trained historian, from an assessment of the 1965 economic reform to what Mr. Medvedev calls shortcomings in Soviet agriculture, deterioration of the Soviet housing system and problems with national minorities.

A number of themes mentioned in its table of contents, which has reached Western newsmen, are similar to those dealt with briefly in past samizdat works. Others are new.

**Typescript Said to Circulate
Among Moscow Dissidents**

One chapter deals with political trends within the Communist party. Another chapter goes into various political trends outside the party.

A third chapter deals with what the author terms "serious shortcomings" in the operation of state security organs and proposes "measures for improvement."

Two other chapters deal with topics raised in Zhores Medvedev's lengthy work, "The Medvedev Papers," such as freedom of speech and the press, freedom of scientific research and publication, artistic freedom and the right to free assembly for Soviet citizens.

**Team From U.P.I. Enters
China for Two-Week Stay**

HONG KONG, Aug. 18 (UPI)—A United Press International news team arrived in Peking today at the invitation of the official Chinese press agency Hsinhua.

Hsinhua reported that the six-member team, led by Roderick W. Beaton, president of U.P.I., was greeted at the airport by Teng Kang, deputy director of the Chinese press agency.

The team will spend two weeks or more in China for discussions with Hsinhua officials on future U.P.I. coverage of China and news and photograph agreements with the Chinese.

Other members of the group were Mrs. Beaton, H. L. Stevenson, editor-in-chief; Wilbur G. Landrey, foreign editor; Mrs. Landrey, and Robert Schnitzlein, Asia Newspictures manager, who is based in Hong Kong.